

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

- 1 (currently amended): A solid electrolytic capacitor comprising:
- an anode composed of a metal;
  - a dielectric layer composed of an oxide of said metal and formed on the surface of said anode;
  - an electrolytic layer; and
  - a cathode layer in this order,
- said cathode layer having a laminated structure of a carbon layer and a metal layer composed of metal particles having an average particle diameter of not larger than 0.05  $\mu\text{m}$  and formed on said carbon layer, wherein said metal layer includes a protective colloid.
- 2 (original): The solid electrolytic capacitor according to Claim 1, wherein said average particle diameter of said metal particles is not smaller than 0.01  $\mu\text{m}$ .
- 3 (original): The solid electrolytic capacitor according to Claim 1, wherein said metal particles include at least one kind of metal selected from the group consisting of silver, gold, and platinum.
- 4 (canceled)
- 5 (original): The solid electrolytic capacitor according to Claim 1, wherein said electrolytic layer is composed of a conductive polymer.

6 (original): The solid electrolytic capacitor according to Claim 1, wherein  
said anode includes at least one kind of metal selected from the group consisting of  
tantalum, aluminum, niobium, and titanium.

7 (withdrawn): A method of manufacturing a solid electrolytic capacitor including the steps  
of:

forming on the surface of an anode composed of a metal a dielectric layer composed of an  
oxide of said metal;

forming an electrolytic layer on said dielectric layer;

forming a carbon layer on said dielectric layer; and

forming on said carbon layer a metal layer composed of metal particles having an average  
particle diameter of not larger than 0.05  $\mu\text{m}$ .

8 (withdrawn): The method of manufacturing the solid electrolytic capacitor according to  
Claim 7, wherein

said average particle diameter of said metal particles is not smaller than 0.01  $\mu\text{m}$ .

9 (withdrawn): The method of manufacturing the solid electrolytic capacitor according to  
Claim 7, wherein

said step of forming said metal layer includes the steps of:

applying on said carbon layer a metal paste including said metal particles; and

drying said metal paste at a temperature of 150°C or higher after applying said metal paste.

10 (withdrawn): The method of manufacturing the solid electrolytic capacitor according to  
Claim 7, wherein

said step of forming said metal layer includes the steps of:

preparing a metal paste by mixing said metal particles and a protective colloid in an organic solvent; and

forming said metal paste on said carbon layer.

11 (withdrawn): A method of manufacturing a solid electrolytic capacitor including the steps of:

forming on the surface of an anode composed of a metal a dielectric layer composed of an oxide of said metal, an electrolytic layer, and a carbon layer in this order;

preparing a metal paste by mixing metal particles and a protective colloid in an organic solvent; and

forming a metal layer by applying said metal paste on said carbon layer.

12 (new): A solid electrolytic capacitor comprising:

an anode composed of a metal;

a dielectric layer composed of an oxide of said metal and formed on the surface of said anode;

an electrolytic layer; and

a cathode layer in this order,

said cathode layer having a laminated structure of a carbon layer and a metal layer composed of metal particles having an average particle diameter of not larger than 0.05  $\mu\text{m}$  and formed on said carbon layer, and

said electrolytic layer being composed of a conductive polymer.

13 (new): The said electrolytic capacitor according to claim 12, wherein

said metal layer includes a protective colloid.